

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Office Action dated 4 April 2006. Responsive to the rejections made in the Office Action, Independent Claims 1, 5 and 9 and Claims 3-4 and 7-8 have been amended to clarify the combination of elements that form the invention of the subject Patent Application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1 – 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hsu et al. (U.S. # Patent 6,393,588).

Prior to discussing the prior art relied upon by the Examiner, it is believed beneficial to first briefly describe certain aspects of the Applicant's testing device in light of the amended Claims. The testing device enables a user to test a plurality of peripheral devices, each having a Universal Serial Bus (USB) interface. Among the features recited in the Claims are: A Central Processing Unit (CPU), memory either directly coupled to or included within the CPU, and a control chip having a plurality of connecting ports for connecting with the peripheral devices and further equipped with a USB interface control. In combination they serve to test "for proper actual operation" of the peripheral devices as recited now more clearly in each of the newly-amended independent claims.

In making the rejections, the Examiner stated that Hsu et al. discloses each and every element claimed in the invention.

It is respectfully submitted that Hsu et al. discloses a test apparatus for testing the functionality of a USB hub under the control of a USB host computer (12). The test apparatus includes a host computer (12), USB hub (16) and, an emulation apparatus (20).

Among the most apparent of the distinctions between the Applicant's claimed testing device and the Hsu et al. USB hub tester is the simple fact that the Hsu reference fails to disclose or suggest a testing device which actually tests a "plurality of peripheral devices ... for proper actual operation" through a control chip. Thus, in contrast to the claimed device, it is the functionality of a USB hub that Hsu et al.'s test apparatus tests for – not the functionality of any peripheral devices that may be attached to the hub. In fact, Hsu et al. explicitly bars any notion of testing for such peripheral devices themselves, choosing as it does to emulate rather than connecting any actual ones of those peripheral devices.

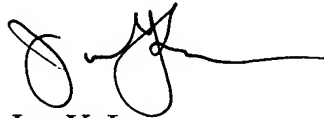
The very function of the prescribed emulators, moreover, is to emulate the proper expected operation of such peripheral devices. This altogether removes the question of their faulty operation as a possible cause of irregular operation detected by Hsu et al.'s testing. Only after the peripheral devices are emulated for proper operation is the prescribed testing performed on the hub. Therefore, Hsu et al. necessarily forecloses any testing of any peripheral devices, let alone their testing for "proper actual operation," as now more clearly recited by the pending claims.

As Hsu et al fails to disclose each and every one of the claimed elements, it hardly anticipates the invention.

Therefore, it is believed that Independent Claims 1, 5, and 9 are allowable. Further, it is believed that dependent Claims 2-4 and 6-8 are allowable for at least the same reasons as the Claims upon which they depend.

In view of the foregoing reasons, it is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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